

(1996 PUBLICATION)

[Patent Claims]

[Claim 1] A method of operating a fuel cell power generation system comprising: a serially-connected stack group including a plurality of cell stacks which are serially connected; fuel supply lines each provided for each of said cell stacks to supply fuel to said each cell stack; and oxidant supply lines each provided for each of said cell stacks to supply oxidant to said each cell stack; wherein the fuel cell power generation system generates power by supplying fuel and oxidant, of which amounts correspond to cell load, to said respective cell stacks through said respective fuel supply lines and said respective oxidant supply lines, said system further including flow regulating valves for regulating the amounts of oxidant to be supplied to said respective cell stacks, and a controller for controlling said flow regulating valves, said method being characterized by temporally stopping one or some of said cell stacks from being supplied with oxidant while fuel is continuously supplied to all of said cell stacks.

[Claim 2] A method of operating a fuel cell power generation system comprising: a serially-connected stack group including a plurality of cell stacks which are serially connected; fuel supply lines each provided for each of said cell stacks to

supply fuel to said each cell stack; and oxidant supply lines each provided for each of said cell stacks to supply oxidant to said each cell stack; wherein the fuel cell power generation system generates power by supplying fuel and oxidant, of which amounts correspond to cell load, to said respective cell stacks through said respective fuel supply lines and said respective oxidant supply lines, said system further including flow regulating valves for regulating the amounts of oxidant to be supplied to said respective cell stacks, and a controller for controlling said flow regulating valves, said method being characterized by temporally stopping the supply of oxidant to one or some of said cell stacks while fuel is continuously supplied to all of said cell stacks and by increasing the fuel and oxidant amounts to be supplied to the cell stacks other than said one or some of said cell stacks so as to compensate for lack of power due to the temporary stopping of the supply of oxidant to said one or more of said cell stacks.